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Commissioner Jane Henney  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Dear Commissioner Henney:

I am writing because I do not agree with the FDA's decision to use irradiated food for meat, vegetables and fruits. The reasons are as follows:

The beef on the barbecue, the lemons in your water, the strawberries on your cake-- What do these all have in common? Great taste, but...irradiation. Do you like the environmental and health related risks in your food potentially caused by irradiation? I don't.

Irradiation may carry a severe risk of miscarriage and sudden weight loss in humans. In fact, a *New Jersey Medical School Report* has information that states, "Animals fed irradiated food experienced miscarriages and sudden weight loss." This may also happen to humans fed irradiated food. We don't know.

Irradiation extends shelf life, giving the food more of a chance to become re-contaminated. Do you want to eat old or rotten food? I don't. Also, you can eat rotten food without even knowing it's rotten because irradiation gets rid of rotten smells and rotten tastes. If you are not sure of the information I mentioned, you can find it in *Health and Fitness* magazine and the *Post-Dispatch*.

Irradiation is still a mystery. We don't know whether it changes the chemical composition of the food or if it will cause us harm to humans in later years. I think at least that all irradiated food should be labeled, and that people should be able to make a choice of buying irradiated or non irradiated food. I also think restaurants should have to disclose information about the irradiation status of food they serve.

In conclusion, I think that you should at least reconsider the production and the labeling of irradiated food. After all, "you are what you eat."

Sincerely,



Noah Goodman

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